JOHN BULL

In His SENSES:

BEING THE

SECOND PART

OF

Law is a Bottomleſs-Pit.

Printed from a Manuſcript found in the Cabinet of the famous Sir Humphry Poleſworth.

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JOURNEY

In His STEAD:

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THE CONTENTS.

CHAP. I.

MRS. BULL's *Vindication of the indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, incumbent upon Wives, in case of the Tyranny, Infidelity or Insufficiency of Husbands: Being a full Answer to the Doctor's Sermon against* Adultery. Pag. 5

CHAP. II.

The two great Parties of Wives, the Devoto's *and the* Hits. 8

CHAP. III.

An Account of the Conference between Mrs. Bull *and* Don Diego Dismallo. 9

The Articles of Agreement between John Bull *and* Nicholas Frog. 12

Nicholas Frog's *Letter to* Lewis Baboon, Master of the Noble Science of Defence. 14

CHAP. IV.

How the Guardians of the Deceas'd Mrs. Bull's *three Daughters came to* John Bull, *and what Advice they gave him; wherein is briefly treated the Characters of the three Daughters: Also* John Bull's *Answer to the three Guardians.* 15

CHAP. V.

Esquire South's *Message and Letter to Mrs.* Bull. 22

John Bull *in his Senses.*

CHAP. I.

Mrs. Bull's *Vindication of the indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, incumbent upon Wives, in case of the Tyranny, Infidelity, or Insufficiency of Husbands: Being a full Answer to the Doctor's Sermon against* Adultery.

JOHN found daily fresh Proofs of the Infidelity and bad Designs of his deceas'd Wife; amongst other Things, one Day looking over his Cabinet, he found the following Paper.

IT is evident that Matrimony is founded upon an original Contract, whereby the Wife makes over the Right she has by the Law of Nature to the *Concubitus vagus*, in favour of the Husband, by which he acquires the Property of all her Posterity; but then the Obligation is mutual: And where the Contract is broken on one side, it ceases to bind on the other; where there is a Right, there must be a Power to maintain it, and to punish the offending Party. This Power I affirm to be that Original Right, or rather that indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, lodg'd in all Wives, in the Cases above-mention'd. No Wife is bound by any Law to which she her self has not consented: All Oeconomical Government is lodg'd originally in the Husband and Wife, the executive part being in the Husband, both have their Privileges secur'd to them by Law and Reason; but will

of her Share, and that which is the principal Branch of it, the original Right of Cuckoldom? and that she has no remedy left but *Preces & Lacryma*, or an Appeal to a supreme Court of Judicature? No less frivolous are the Arguments that are drawn from the general Appellations and Terms of Husband and Wife; a Husband denotes several different sorts of Magistracy, according to the Usages and Customs of different Climates and Countries; in some Eastern Nations it signifies a Tyrant, with the absolute Power of Life and Death. In *Turkey* it denotes an Arbitrary Governor, with power of perpetual Imprisonment; in *Italy* it gives the Husband the power of Poison and Padlocks; in the Countries of *England*, *France* and *Holland*, it has quite a different Meaning, implying a free and equal Government, securing to the Wife, in certain Cases, the liberty of Cuckoldom, and the property of Pin-money and separate Maintenance; so that the Arguments drawn from the terms of Husband and Wife are fallacious, and by no means fit to support a tyrannical Doctrine, as that of absolute unlimited Chastity, and conjugal Fidelity.

The general Exhortations to Chastity in Wives, are meant only for Rules in ordinary Cases, but they naturally suppose the three Conditions of Ability, Justice and Fidelity, in the Husband; such an unlimited, uncondition'd Fidelity in the Wife could never be supposed by reasonable Men; it seems a reflexion upon the Church, to charge her with Doctrines that countenance Oppression.

This Doctrine of the original Right of Cuckoldom is congruous to the Law of Nature, which is superior to all human Laws, and for that I dare appeal to all Wives: It is much to the Honour of our *English* Wives, that they have never given up that *fundamental Point*; and that tho' in former Ages they were muffled up in Darkness and Superstition, yet that Notion

To assert the Illegality of Cuckoldom, upon any Pretence whatsoever, were to cast odious Colours upon the married State, to blacken the necessary Means of perpetuating Families: Such Laws can never be suppos'd to have been design'd to defeat the very end of Matrimony, the Propagation of Mankind. I call them necessary Means, for in many Cases what other Means are left? Such a Doctrine wounds the Honour of Families, unsettles the Titles to Kingdoms, Honours and Estates; for if the Actions from which such Settlements spring were illegal, all that is built upon them must be so too; but the last is absurd, therefore the first must be so likewise. What is the Cause that *Europe* groans, at present, under the heavy Load of a cruel and expensive War, but the tyrannical Custom of a certain Nation, and the scrupulous Nicety of a silly Queen, in not exercising this indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, whereby the Kingdom might have had an Heir, and a controverted Succession might have been avoided? These are the Effects of the narrow Maxims of your Clergy, *That one must not do Evil, that Good may come of it.*

The Assertors of this indefeasible Right, and *Jus Divinum* of Matrimony, do all in their Hearts favour Gallants, and the Pretenders to married Women; for if the true legal Foundation of the married State be once sap'd, and instead thereof tyrannical Maxims introduc'd, what must follow but Elopements, instead of secret and peaceable Cuckoldom?

From all that has been said, one may clearly perceive the Absurdity of the Doctrine of this seditious, discontented, hot-headed, ungifted, unedifying Preacher, asserting, *That the grand Security of the matrimonial State, and the Pillar upon which it stands, is founded upon the Wife's belief of an absolute unconditional Fidelity to the Husband's Bed:* By which bold Assertion he strikes at the Root, digs the Foundation, and removes the Basis upon which the Happiness of a

married

married State is built. As for his personal Reflexions, I would gladly know who are those *Wanton Wives* he speaks of? who are those Ladies of high Stations, that he so boldly traduces in his Sermon? It is pretty plain who these Aspersions are aim'd at, for which he deserves the Pillory, or something worse.

In confirmation of this Doctrine of the indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom, I could bring the Example of the wisest Wives in all Ages, who by these means have preserv'd their Husband's Families from Ruin and Oblivion, by want of Posterity; but what has been said, is a sufficient Ground for punishing this pragmatical Parson.

CHAP. II.

The two great Parties of Wives, the Devoto's *and the* Hitts.

THE Doctrine of unlimited Chastity and Fidelity in Wives, was universally espous'd by all Husbands, who went about the Country, and made the Wives sign Papers, signifying their utter Detestation and Abhorrence of Mrs. *Bull*'s wicked Doctrine of the indispensable Duty of Cuckoldom. Some yielded, others refused to part with their native Liberty; which gave rise to two great Parties amongst the Wives, the *Devoto's* and the *Hitts*. Tho' it must be own'd, the distinction was more nominal than real; for the *Devoto's* would abuse Freedoms sometimes; and those who were distinguish'd by the Name of *Hitts*, were often very honest. At the same time there was an ingenious Treatise came out, with the Title of *Good Advice to Husbands*; in which they are counsell'd not to trust too much to their Wives owning the Doctrine of unlimited conjugal Fidelity, and so to neglect Family Duty, and a due watchfulness

ness over the Manners of their Wives; that the greatest Security to Husbands was a vigorous Constitution, good Usage of their Wives, and keeping them from Temptation; many Husbands having been Sufferers by their trusting too much to general Professions, as was exemplified in the Case of a foolish and negligent Husband, who trusting to the Efficacy of this Principle, was undone by his Wife's Elopement from him.

CHAP. II.

An Account of the Conference between Mrs. Bull *and* Don Diego Dismallo.

Don Diego. IS it possible, Cousin *Bull*, that you can forget the honourable Maxims of the Family you are come of, and break your word with three of the honestest best meaning Persons in the World, Esquire *South*, *Frog* and *Hocus*, that have sacrific'd their Interest to yours? It is base to take Advantage of their Simplicity and Credulity, and leave them in the lurch at last.

Mrs. Bull. I am sure they have left my Family in a bad Condition, we have hardly Money to go to Market, and no Body will take our Words for Six Pence. A very fine Spark this Esquire *South!* My Husband took him in, a dirty, snotty-nos'd Boy, it was the Business of half the Servants to attend him, the Rogue did bawl and make such a noise: Sometimes he fell in the Fire and burnt his Face, sometimes broke his Shins clambering over the Benches, often pis's'd a-Bed, and always came in so dirty, as if he had been drag'd thro' the Kennel at a Boarding-School. He lost his Money at Chuck-Farthing, Shuffle-Cap, and All-Fours; sold his Books, pawn'd his Linnen, which we were always forc'd to redeem. Then the whole Generation of him are so in love with Bagpipes and

Poppet Shows; I wish you knew what my Husband has paid at the Pastry Cooks and Confectioners for *Naples* Biscuit, Tarts, Custards, and Sweet-Meats. All this while my Husband consider'd him as a Gentleman of a good Family that had fallen into Decay, gave him good Education, and has settled him in a good Credible way of Living, having procur'd him, by his Interest, one of the best Places of the Country; and what return, think you, does this fine Gentleman make us? he will hardly give me or my Husband a good Word, or a civil Expression: Instead of plain Sir and Madam (which, tho' I say it, is our due) he calls us *Goody* and *Gaffer* such a one, that he did us a great deal Honour to Board with us; huffs and dings at such a rate, because we will not spend the little we have left to get him the Title and Estate of Lord *Strut*; and then, forsooth, we shall have the Honour to be his Woollen-drapers.

D. Diego. And would you lose the Honour of so noble and generous an Undertaking? would you rather accept the scandalous Composition, and trust that old Rogue, *Lewis Baboon*?

Mrs. Bull. Look you, Friend *Diego*, if we Law it on till *Lewis* turns honest, I am afraid our Credit will run low at *Blackwell-Hall*; I wish every Man had his own; but I still say, that Lord *Strut*'s Money shines as bright, and chinks as well as Esquire *South*'s. I don't know any other Hold that we Tradesmen have of these great Folks, but their Interest; buy dear, and sell cheap, and I'll warrant ye you will keep your Customer. The worst is, that Lord *Strut*'s Servants have got such a haunt about that old Rogue's Shop, that it will cost us many a Firkin of strong Beer to bring them back again, and the longer they are in a bad Road, the harder it will be to get them out of it.

D. Diego. But poor *Frog*, what has he done! On my Conscience, if there be an honest, sincere Man in

Mrs. Ball. I think I need not tell you how much *Frog* has been oblig'd to our Family from his Childhood; he carries his Head high now, but he had never been the Man he is, without our Help. Ever since the Commencement of this Law-Suit it has been the Business of *Hocus*, in sharing our Expences, to plead for *Frog*. *Poor* Frog, (says he) *is in hard Circumstances, he has a numerous Family, and lives from Hand to Mouth; his Children don't eat a bit of good Victuals from one Year's end to the other, but live upon Salt Herring, sour Curd, and Bare-cole; he does his utmost, poor Fellow, to keep things even in the World, and has exerted himself beyond his Ability in this Law-Suit, but he really has not where-withal to go on. What signifies this Hundred Pounds, place it upon your side of the Account; it is a great deal to poor* Frog, *and a Trifle to you.* This has been *Hocus*'s constant Language, and I am sure he has had Obligations enough to us to have acted another Part.

D. Diego. No doubt *Hocus* meant all this for the best, but he is a tender-hearted charitable Man; *Frog* is indeed in hard Circumstances.

Mrs. Ball. Hard Circumstances! I swear this is provoking to the last degree. All the time of the Law-Suit, as fast as I have Mortgaged, *Frog* has purchas'd: From a plain Tradesman, with a Shop, Warehouse, and a Country-Hutt, with a dirty Fish-Pond at the end of it, he is now grown a very rich Country Gentleman, with a noble-landed Estate, noble Palaces, Manors, Parks, Gardens and Farms, finer than any we were ever Master of. Is it not strange, when my Husband disburs'd great Sums every Term, *Frog* should be purchasing some new Farm or Manor? So that if this Law-Suit lasts, he will be far the richest Man in his Country. What is worse than all this, he steals away my Customers every Day; I have Twelve of the richest, and the

whom, to my certain Knowledge, he has under Bonds never to return again: Judge you if this be neighbourly Dealing.

D. Diego. *Frog* is indeed pretty close in his Dealings, but very honest: You are so touchy, and take things so hotly, I am sure there must be some Mistake in this.

Mrs. Bull. A plaguy one indeed! You know, and have often told me of it, how *Hocus* and those Rogues kept my Husband, *John Bull*, drunk for five Years together, with Punch and Strong Waters; I am sure he never went one Night sober to Bed, till they got him to sign the strangest Deed that evet you saw in your Life. The Methods they took to manage him I'll tell you another time, at present I'll only read the Writing.

Articles of Agreement betwixt *John Bull*, Clothier, and *Nicholas Frog*, Linnen-draper.

I. *That for maintaining the ancient good Correspondence and Friendship between the said Parties,* I Nicholas Frog *do solemnly engage and promise to keep Peace in* John Bull's *Family; that neither his Wife, Children nor Servants give him any Trouble, Disturbance or Molestation whatsoever, but to oblige them all to do their Duty quietly in their respective Stations: And whereas the said* John Bull, *from the assured Confidence that he has in my Friendship, has appointed me Executor of his Last Will and Testament, and Guardian to his Children, I do undertake for me, my Heirs and Assigns, to see the same duly executed and performed, and that it shall be unalterable in all its Parts by* John Bull *or any Body else: For that purpose it shall be lawful and allowable for me to enter his House at any Hour of the Day or Night, to break open Bars, Bolts and Doors, Chests of Drawers and strong Boxes, in order to secure the Peace of my Friend* John Bull's *Family, and to see his Will duly executed.*

Nicholas Frog, *in that he has been pleas'd to accept of the foresaid Trust, I* John Bull, *having duly consider'd that my Friend* Nicholas Frog *at this time lives in a marshy Soil and unwholesome Air, infested with Fogs and Damps, destructive of the Health of himself, Wife and Children, do bind and oblige me, my Heirs and Assigns, to Purchase for the said* Nicholas Frog, *with the best and readiest of my Cash, Bonds, Mortgages, Goods and Chattels, a landed Estate, with Parks, Gardens, Palaces, Rivers, Fields and Outlets, consisting of as large Extent as the said* Nicholas Frog *shall think fit: And whereas the said* Nicholas Frog *is at present hem'd in too close by the Grounds of* Lewis Baboon, Master of the Science of Defence, *I the said* John Bull *do oblige my self, with the readiest of my Cash, to Purchase and Enclose the said Grounds, for as many Fields and Acres as the said* Nicholas *shall think fit; to the intent that the said* Nicholas *may have free Egress and Regress, without Lett or Molestation, suitable to the Demands of himself and Family.*

III. *Furthermore, the said* John Bull *obliges himself to make the Country-Neighbours of* Nicholas Frog, *allot a certain part of Yearly Rents, to pay for the Repairs of the said landed Estate, to the intent his good Friend* Nicholas Frog *may be eased of all Charges.*

IV. *And whereas the said* Nicholas Frog *did Contract with the deceased Lord* Strutt *about certain Liberties, Privileges and Immunities, formerly in the Possession of the said* John Bull; *I the said* John Bull *do freely, by these Presents, renounce, quit and make over to the said* Nicholas *the Liberties, Privileges and Immunities contracted for, in as full manner as if they never had belong'd to me.*

V. *The said* John Bull *obliges himself, his Heirs and Assigns, not to sell one Rag of Broad or Course Cloath to any Gentleman, within the Neighbourhood of the said* Nicholas, *except in such Quantities and such Rates, as the said* Nicholas *shall think fit.*

Sign'd and Seal'd, John Bull,

The reading of this Paper put Mrs. *Bull* in such a Passion, that she fell downright into a Fit, and they were forc'd to give her a good quantity of the Spirit of Hartshorn before she recover'd.

D. Diego. Why in such a Passion, Cousin? Considering your Circumstances at that time, I don't think this such an unreasonable Contract. You see *Frog*, for all this, is religiously true to his Bargain, he scorns to hearken to any Competition without your Privacy.

Mrs. Bull. You know the contrary, read that Letter.

[*Reads the Superscription.*] For *Lewis Baboon*, Master of the Noble Science of Defence.

SIR,

I Understand that you are at this time Treating with my Friend John Bull, *about restoring the Lord* Strutt's *Custom, and besides allowing him certain Privileges of Parks and Fish-Ponds. I wonder how you, that are a Man that knows the World, can talk with that simple Fellow. He has been my Bubble these Twenty Years, and, to my certain knowledge, understands no more of his own Affairs, than a Child in Swadling-Cloaths. I know he has got a sort of a pragmatical silly Jade of a Wife, that pretends to take him out of my Hands, but you and she both will find your selves mistaken, I'll find those that shall manage her; and for him, he dares no more be hang'd as make one step in his Affairs, without my consent. If you will give me what you promised him, I will make all things easie, and stop the Deeds of Ejectment against Lord* Strutt; *if you will not, take what follows; I shall have a good Action against you, for pretending to rob me of my Bubble. Take this warning from*

Your loving Friend,

Nic. Frog.

I am told, Cousin *Diego*, you are one of those that

ſaid you will carry a Green Bag your ſelf, rather than we ſhall make an end of our Law-Suit: I'll teach them and you too to manage.

D. Diego. For God's ſake, Madam, why ſo Cholerick? I ſay, this Letter is ſome Forgery, it never enter'd into the Head of that honeſt Man, *Nic. Frog*, to do any ſuch think.

Mrs. Bull. I can't abide you, you have been railing theſe Twenty Years at Eſquire *South*, *Frog* and *Hocus*, calling them Rogues and Pick-Pockets, and now they are turn'd the honeſteſt Fellows in the World; what is the meaning of all this?

D. Diego. Pray tell me how you came to employ this Sir *Roger* in your Affairs, and not think of your old Friend *Diego*?

Mrs. Bull. So, ſo, there it pinches. To tell you truth, I have employ'd Sir *Roger* in ſeveral weighty Affairs, and have found him truſty and honeſt, and the poor Man always ſcorn'd to take a Farthing of me. I have abundance that profeſs great Zeal, but they are damnable greedy of the Pence. My Husband and I are now in ſuch Circumſtances, that we muſt be ſerv'd upon cheaper Terms than we have been.

D. Diego. Well, Couſin, I find I can do no good with you, I am ſorry that you will ruin your ſelf by truſting this Sir *Roger*.

CHAP. IV.

How the Guardians of the deceas'd Mrs. Bull's *three Daughters came to* John, *and what Advice they gave him; wherein is briefly treated the Characters of the three Daughters: Alſo* John Bull's *Anſwer to the three Guardians.*

I Told you in my firſt Part, that Mrs. *Bull*, before ſhe departed this Life, had bleſs'd *John* with three Daughters; I need not here repeat their Names, neither

ther would I willingly uſe any ſcandalous Reflections upon young Ladies, whoſe Reputations ought to be very tenderly handled; but the Characters of theſe were ſo well known in the Neighbourhood, that it is doing them no Injury to make a ſhort Deſcription of them.

The Eldeſt was a termagant, imperious, prodigal, lewd, profligate Wench, as ever breath'd; ſhe uſed to Rantipole about the Houſe, pinch the Children, kick the Servants, and torture the Cats and the Dogs; ſhe would rob her Father's ſtrong Box, for Money to give the young Fellows that ſhe was fond of: She had a noble Air, and ſomething great in her Mein, but ſuch a noiſome infectious Breath, as threw all the Servants that dreſs'd her into Conſumptions; if ſhe ſmelt to the freſheſt Noſegay, it would ſhrivel and wither as it had been blighted: She us'd to come home in her Cups, and break the *China*, and the Looking-glaſſes, and was of ſuch an irregular Temper, and ſo entirely given up to her Paſſion, that you might argue as well with the Northwind, as with her Ladyſhip; ſo Expenſive, that the Income of three Dukedoms was not enough to ſupply her Extravagance. *Hocus* lov'd her beſt, believing her to be his own, got upon the Body of Mrs. *Bull*.

The ſecond Daughter, born a Year after her Siſter, was a peeviſh, froward, ill-condition'd Creature as ever was born, ugly as the Devil, lean, haggard, pale, with ſaucer Eyes, a ſharp Noſe and hunch-back'd, but active, ſprightly and diligent about her Affairs. Her Ill-Complexion was occaſion'd by her bad Diet, which was Coffee, Morning, Noon and Night. She never reſted quietly a Bed, but uſed to diſturb the whole Family with ſhrieking out in her Dreams, and plague them next Day with interpreting them, for ſhe took them all for Goſpel. She would cry out Murder, and diſturb the whole Neighbourhood; and when *John* came running down Stairs to enquire

what

what the Matter was, nothing forsooth, only her Maid had stuck a Pin wrong in her Gown. She turn'd away one Servant for putting too much Oil in her Sallad, and another for putting too little Salt in her Water-Gruel. But such as by Flattery had procur'd her Esteem, she would indulge in the greatest Crimes. Her Father had two Coachmen, when one was in the Coach-box, if the Coach swung but the least to one side, she used to shriek so loud, that all the Street concluded she was overturn'd; but tho' the other was eternally Drunk, and had overturn'd the whole Family, she was very angry with her Father for turning him away. Then she used to carry Tales and Stories from one to another, till she had set the whole Neighbourhood together by the Ears; and this was the only Diversion she took pleasure in. She never went abroad, but she brought home such a bundle of monstrous Lyes as would have amaz'd any Mortal, but such as knew her: Of a Whale that had swallow'd a Fleet of Ships; of the Lyons being let out of the *Tower*, to destroy the Protestant Religion; of the Pope's being seen in a Brandy Shop at *Wapping*, and a prodigious strong Man that was going to shove down the *Cupola* of *Paul's*; of Three millions of Five Pound Pieces that Esquire *South* had found under an old Wall; of Blazing-Stars, Flying Dragons, and abundance of such Stuff. All the Servants in the Family made high Court to her, for she Domineer'd there, and turn'd out and in whom she pleas'd; only there was an old Grudge between her and Sir *Roger*, whom she mortally hated, and used to hire Fellows to squirt Kennel Water upon him as he pass'd along the Streets, so that he was forc'd constantly to wear a Surtout of oil'd Cloath, by which means he came home pretty clean, except where the Surtout was a little scanty.

As for the Third, she was a Thief, and a com-

Solicitation from Nature, for she own'd she had no Enjoyment. She had no Respect of Persons, a Prince or a Porter was all one, according as they paid; yea she would leave the finest Gentleman in the World to go to an ugly pocky Fellow, for Six Pence more. In the practice of her Profession she had amass'd vast Magazines of all sorts of Things; she had above Five hundred Suits of fine Clothes, and yet went abroad like a Cynder-Wench: She robb'd and starv'd all the Servants, so that no Body could live near her.

So much for *John*'s three Daughters, which you will say were Rarities to be fond of. Yet Nature will show it self; no Body could blame their Relations for taking care of them, and therefore it was that *Hocus*, with two other of the Guardians, thought it their Duty to take care of the Interest of the three Girls, and give *John* their best Advice, before he Compounded the Law-Suit.

Hocus. What makes you so shy of late, my good Friend? There's no Body loves you better than I, nor has taken more pains in your Affairs: As I hop'd to be sav'd I would do any thing to serve you, I would crawl upon all Four to serve you; I have spent my Health, and paternal Estate in your Service; I have, indeed, a small Pittance left, with which I might retire, and with as good a Conscience as any Man. But the thoughts of this disgraceful Composition so touches me to the Quick, that I cannot sleep: After I had brought the Cause to the last Stroke, that one Verdict more had quite ruin'd old *Lewis* and Lord *Strut*, and put you in the quiet Possession of every thing, then to Compound, I cannot bear it. This Cause was my Favourite, I had set my Heart upon it; it is like an only Child, I cannot endure it should miscarry: For God sake

is brought: He is at an end of all his Caſh, his Attorneys have hardly one Trick left, they are at an end of all their *Chicane*; beſides, he has both his Law and his daily Bread now upon Truſt: Hold out only one Term longer, and, I'll warrant you, before the next, we ſhall have him in the *Fleet*. I'll bring him to the Pillory, his Ears ſhall pay for his Perjuries; for the Love of God don't Compound, let me be Damn'd if you have a Friend in the World that loves you better than I; there is no Body can ſay I am Covetous, or that I have any Intereſt to purſue but yours.

2d Guardian. There is nothing ſo plain, than that this *Lewis* has a deſign to Ruin all his neighbouring Tradeſmen, and at this time he has ſuch a prodigious Income, by his Trade of all kinds, that if there is not ſome ſtop put to his Exorbitant Riches, he will Monopolize every thing, and no Body will be able to ſell a Yard of Drapery or Mercery Ware but himſelf. I therefore hold it adviſable, that you continue the Law-Suit, and burſt him at once. My Concern for the three poor Motherleſs Children obliges me to give you this Advice, for their Eſtates, poor Girls, depend upon the Succeſs of this Cauſe.

3d Guardian. I own this Writ of Ejectment has coſt dear, but then conſider it is a Jewel well worth the Purchaſing, at the Price of all you have. None but Mr. *Bull*'s declar'd Enemies can ſay he has any other Security for his Cloathing Trade, but the Ejectment of Lord *Strut*. The only Queſtion then that remains to be decided, is, Who ſhall ſtand the Expences of the Suit? To which the Anſwer is as plain, Who but he that is to have the Advantage of the Sentence? When Eſquire *South* has got Poſſeſſion of his Title and Honour, is not *John Bull* to be his Clothier? Who then but *John* ought to put him in Poſſeſſion? Ask but any indifferent Gentleman

who ought to bear his Charges at Law? and he will readily anſwer, his Tradeſmen. I do therefore affirm, and I will go to Death with it, that, being his Clothier, you ought to put him in quiet Poſſeſſion of his Eſtate, and with the ſame generous Spirit you have begun it, compleat the good Work. If you perſiſt in the bad Meaſures you are now in, what muſt become of the three poor Orphans? My Heart bleeds for the poor Girls,

John Bull. You are all very eloquent Perſons, but give me leave to tell you, that you expreſs a great deal of more Concern for the three Girls than for me; I think my Intereſt ought to be conſider'd in the firſt place. As for you, *Hocus*, I can't but ſay you have managed my Law-Suit with great Addreſs, and much to my Honour; and, tho' I ſay it, you have been well paid for it; never was Attornies Bill more Extravagant, and, give me leave to ſay, there are many Articles which the moſt griping of your Profeſſion never demanded. I have truſted you with the diſburſing great Sums of Money, and you have conſtantly ſunk ſome into your own Pocket. I tell you I don't like that Sinking. Why muſt the Burthen be taken off *Frog*'s Back, and laid upon my Shoulders? He can drive about his own Parks and Fields in his gilt Chariot, when I have been forc'd to Mortgage my Eſtate! his Note will go farther than my Bond! Is it not Matter of Fact, that from the richeſt Tradeſman in all the Country, I am reduced to beg and borrow from Scriveners and Uſurers, that ſuck the Heart, Blood and Guts out of me, and what was all this for? Did you like *Frog*'s Countenance better than mine? Was not I your old Friend and Relation? Have I not preſented you nobly? Have I not clad your whole Family? Have you not had an Hundred Yards at a time, of the fineſt Cloath in my Shop? Why muſt the reſt

of the Tradeſmen be not only indemnified from Charges, but forbid to go on with their own Buſineſs; and what is more their Concern than mine? As to holding out this Term, I Appeal to your own Conſcience, has not that been your conſtant Diſcourſe theſe Six Years, one *Term more, and old* Lewis *goes to Pot*; if thou art ſo fond of my Cauſe, be generous for once, and lend me a brace of Thouſands. Ah *Hocus! Hocus!* I know thee, not a Sous to ſave me from Goal, I trow. Look ye, Gentlemen, I have liv'd with Credit in the World, and it grieves my Heart, never to ſtir out of my Doors, but to be pull'd by the Sleeve by ſome Raſcally Dun, or another: *Sir, Remember my Bill: There's a ſmall Concern of a Thouſand Pounds, I hope you think on't, Sir.* And to have theſe Uſurers tranſact my Debts at Coffee-Houſes and Ale-Houſes, as if I were going to break-up Shop. Lord! That ever the Rich, the Generous *John Bull*, Clothier, the Envy of all his Neighbours, ſhould be brought to Compound his Debts for Five Shillings in the Pound; and to have his Name in an Advertiſement, for a Statute of Bankrupt. The Thoughts of it makes me Mad. I have read ſome-where in the *Apocrypha*, That one ſhould not *conſult with a Woman touching her, of whom ſhe is Jealous*; *nor with a Merchant, concerning Exchange, nor with a Buyer, of Selling*; *nor with an unmerciful Man of Kindneſs*, &c. I could have added one thing more; *Nor with an Attorney, about Compounding a Law-Suit.* This Ejectment of Lord *Strutt* will never do. The Evidence is Crimp; the Witneſſes ſwear backwards and forwards, and Contradict themſelves, and his Tenants ſtick by him. If it were practicable, is it reaſonable, that when Eſquire *South* is loſing his Money to Sharpers and Pick-Pockets, going about the Country with Fidlers and Buffoons, and ſquandring his Income with Hawks and Dogs,

I ſhould lay out the Fruits of my honeſt Induſtry in a Law-Suit for him, only upon the hopes of being his Clothier? and when the Cauſe is over, I ſhall not have the Benefit of my Project, for want of Money to go to Market. Look ye, Gentlemen, *John Bull* is but a plain Man; but *John Bull* knows when he is ill uſed. I know the Infirmity of our Family; we are apt to play the Boon-Companion, and throw away our Money in our Cups: But it was an unfair thing in you, Gentlemen, to take Advantage of my Weakneſs, to keep a parcel of roaring Bulleys about me, Day and Night, with Huzza's, and Hunting-Horns, and Ringing the Changes on Butchers Cleavers; never to let me cool, and make me ſet my Hands to Papers, when I could hardly hold my Pen. There will come a Day of Reckoning for all that Proceeding. In the mean time, Gentlemen, I beg you will let me into my Affairs a little, and that you would not grudge me very ſmall Remainder of a very great Eſtate.

CHAP. V.

Eſquire South's *Meſſage and Letter to Mrs.* Bull.

THE Arguments us'd by *Hocus*, and the reſt of the Guardians, had hitherto prov'd inſufficient. *John* and his Wife could not be perſwaded to bear the Expence of Eſquire *South*'s Law-Suit. They thought it reaſonable, that ſince he was to have the Honour and Advantage, he would bear the greateſt Share of the Charges; and retrench what he loſt to Sharpers, and ſpent upon Country-Dances, and Puppet-Plays, to apply it to that uſe. This was not very grateful to the Eſquire: Therefore, as the laſt Experiment, he was reſolved to ſend Signior

nior *Benenato*, Master of his Fox-Hounds, to Mrs. *Bull*, to try what good he could do with her. This Signior *Benenato* had all the Qualities of a fine Gentleman, that were fit to Charm a Lady's Heart; and if any Person in the World could have perswaded her, it was he: But such was her unshaken Fidelity to her Husband, and the constant Purpose of her Mind to pursue his Intereſt, that the most refined Arts of Gallantry, that were practis'd, could not seduce her Loyal Heart. The Necklaces, Diamond Crosses, and rich Bracelets that were offer'd, she rejected with the utmost Scorn and Disdain. The Musick and Serenades that were given her, sounded more ungratefully in her Ears, than the Noise of a Screech Owl; however she receiv'd Esquire *South*'s Letter, by the Hands of Signior *Benenato*, with that Respect which became his Quality. The Copy of the Letter is as follows; in which you will observe he Changes, a little, his usual Stile.

MADAM,

THE Writ of Ejectment against Philip Baboon, *pretended Lord* Strutt, *is just ready to pass; there wants but a few necessary Forms, and a Verdict or two more, to put me in the quiet Possession of my Honour and Estate: I question not, but that, according to your wonted Generosity and Goodness, you will give it the finishing Stroke; an Honour that I would grudge any Body, but your self. In order to ease you of some part of the Charges, I promise to furnish Pen, Ink and Paper, provided you pay for the Stamps. Besides, I have order'd my Steward to pay, out of the readiest and best of my Rents, Five Pounds ten Shillings a Year, 'till my Suit is finished. I wish you Health and Happiness, being, with due Respect,*

MADAM,

Your assured Friend,

SOUTH.

What

What Answer Mrs. *Bull* return'd to this Letter, you shall know in my Third Part, only they were at a pretty good distance in their Proposals; for as Esquire *South* only offer'd to be at the Charges of Pen, Ink and Paper, Mrs *Bull* refus'd any more than to lend her Barge, to carry his Counsel to *Westminster-Hall*.

FINIS.

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